



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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12 February 2018

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RE Official information request WCDHB 9074

I refer to your email dated 21 December 2017 requesting the following information under section 12 of the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB. I note your request was clarified on 22 December 2017 regarding 'code red' as being the times when the hospital was unable to take in new patients due to demand or lack of staff resources.

1. How many staff vacancies (FTEs) are there in the DHB in the maternity unit / post-natal ward?

There are no current staff vacancies (FTEs) in the West Coast DHB maternity unit / post-natal ward.

2. How many times has the maternity unit been in Code Red in the past year?

While we don't use the term 'code red' we do manage occupancy and staffing with escalation plans as per the Safe Staffing principles and with TrendCare data. There were two occasions in 2017 (August 2016 and March 2017) when the maternity ward was at 100% occupancy and we managed with women either going home slightly earlier or transferred to the surgical ward with the midwives continuing to provide the care there. **Note:** women are given the options and choice.

3. How many times has the delivery suite been in Code Red in the past year?

As above we do not use the term 'Code Red' in our maternity services. There were two occasions last financial year when both birthing rooms were occupied and on one of these occasions a third woman birthed in her own room. (**Note:** There was no complaint or issue with this as per the third woman's feedback).

4. What is the proportion of DHB staff midwives employed compared with Agency midwives?

The West Coast DHB does not employ agency midwives.

5. How does this compare with last year?

The West Coast DHB did not employ agency midwives in the previous year.

6. How many sentinel events have there been in the last year compared with the previous 5 years (and itemized for each year)?

Please refer to **Table one** (below) for the number of sentinel events for the West Coast DHB in the last financial year and compared with the previous five years.

Table one:

Financial year	Sentinel events
2016/2017	1
2015/2016	0
2014/2015	1
2013/2014	2
2012/2013	4
2011/2012	0

7. How many LMC midwives are actively booking women into hospital and how does this number compare with last year?

There are 10 LMC community based midwives working across the West Coast who have access agreements with the West Coast DHB. All actively book women into hospital if it is the women's choice. This situation remains unchanged from last year.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely



Carolyn Gullery
General Manager
Planning, Funding & Decision Support